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Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TGEN, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-USSR S&T AGREEMENT: SCIENCE POLICY GROUP, R&D PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT (01.09):KIRILLIN MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 75352, (B) MOSCOW 5999, (C) MOSCOW 7016

1. APRIL 3-5 MEETINGS IN MOSCOW OF SCIENCE POLICY WORKING GROUP CO-CHAIRED BY WILLIAM CAREY AND YE. I. SKLYAROV (COLLEGIUM MEMBER STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY) ACHIEVED GOAL OF SETTING FORTH SUBSTANTIVE 1978-79 PROGRAM FOR JWG, REFLECTING SHIFT FROM LITERATURE BASED-STUDIES TO EXCHANGES OF VISITS OF EXPERTS. THE PROTOCOL SIGNED APRIL 5 OUTLINES FOLLOWING WORK PROGRAM.

(A) VISITS BY SOVIET TEAM OF EXPERTS TO TWO U.S. RESEARCH INSTITUTES INVOLVED IN ELECTRIC ENERGY AND GAS PRODUCTION AND UTILIZATION AND VISITS BY U.S. DELEGATION TO ANALOGOUS INSTITUTIONS IN THE SOVIET UNION.

(B) VISITS BY SOVIET EXPERT TEAMS TO TWO TO THREE U.S. COMPANIES TO STUDY PRODUCTION PLANNING TEAM (PPT) OPERATION, WITH U.S. EXPERT TEAMS VISITING TWO TO THREE NPOS (SCIENTIFIC-PRODUCTION ASSOCIATIONS), AND

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(C) ESTABLISHMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN ONE MAJOR SOVIET AND U.S. UNIVERSITY THROUGH VISITS OF SCIENTISTS AND EXPERTS FOR STUDY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS, TRAINING OF ENGINEERS AND TECHNICAL PERSONNEL, ETC.

2. PROTOCOL INDICATES LIST OF INSTITUTES, COMPANIES, NPOS AND UNIVERSITIES PROPOSED FOR VISITS WILL BE

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EXCHANGED BY JUNE 15. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SKLYAROV AND MEETING WITH SCST CHAIRMAN KIRILLIN, JWG COCHAIRMAN CAREY UNDERLINED THE IMPORTANCE OF SOVIETS' PROVIDING U.S. SUFFICIENT DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION ABOUT SOVIET ORGANIZATIONS SO THAT U.S. SIDE CAN MAKE INFORMED DECISION ON THEIR ACCEPTABILITY AND ALLOW FOR ORIENTATION BEFORE VISITS COMMENCEPM

3. WORKING GROUP HAD HOUR-AND-A-HALF MEETING WITH SCST CHAIRMAN KIRILLIN APRIL 5. KIRILLIN EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH PAST WORK OF JWG AND APPROVED IN GENERAL TERMS ITS FURTHER PLANS, INSOFAR AS THESE PROVIDE MUTUAL AND BALANCED BENEFITS. IN LONG INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT KIRILLIN EXPOUNDED ON THE FOLLOWING PARALLELS BETWEEN US AND SOVIET RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS:

(A) RESEARCH INSTITUTES UNDER ALL-UNION MINISTRIES CAN BE COMPARED TO RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN LARGE U.S. FIRMS.IN BOTH THERE SHOULD BE CLOSE CONNECTIONS AMONG RESEARCH, PRODUCTIO PROBLEMS AND NEW APPLICATIONS. HOWEVER, UNFORTUNATELY, THIS IS NOT ALWAYS THE CASE (WE ASSUME KIRILLIN'S CRITICISM HERE WAS ADDRESSED TO SOVIET RESEARCH INSTITUTES).

(B) RESEARCH INSTITUTES OF THE UNION REPUBLICS WHICH HAVE THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN THE US INSTITUTES WORKING UNDER LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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(C) RESEARCH INSTITUTES OF THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES -- HERE THERE IS NO COUNTERPART SINCE NAS HAS NO BODIES PERFORMING RESEARCH UNDER ITS DIRECT AEGIS.

(D) ON RESEARCH ACTIVITY IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, KIRILLIN COMMENTED THAT THIS FUNCTION IN SOVIET HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES HAS EXPANDED RAPIDLY IN THE LAST 10 TO 15 YEARS. MANY OF THESE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES HAVE LITTLE TO DO WITH TEACHING. KIRILLIN NOTED THAT HE HOLDS A CHAIR AT MOSCOW STATE UNIVERSITY, AND THE DEPART-MENT HE DIRECTS HAS 120 INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED SOLELY WITH RESEARCH AND ONLY 30 WITH TEACHING.

4. KIRILLIN NOTED PARTICULAR PROBLEMS HE FACES AT THE SCST ARE REQUESTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW RESEARCH INSTITUTES. EVERYONE KNOWS THAT THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT NEED NEW RESEARCH INSTITUTES, BUT MUST IMPROVE EXISTING ONES. HOWEVER, AN OBKOM SECRETARY THAT HAS HELD HIS POST 10 YEARS OR MORE FEELS HE IS NOT DOING HIS JOB UNLESS AT LEAST ONE NEW RESEARCH INSTITUTE IS ESTABLISHED

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IN HIS DISTRICT. THE BUCK STOPS AT THE SCST AND WE HAVE TO MAKE TOUGH CHOICES AND DISAPPOINT SOME PEOPLE.

5. AT END OF MEETING, KIRILLIN ASKED CAREY TO TRANSMIT HIS BEST PERSONAL REGARDS TO DR. PRESS. KIRILLIN STATED THAT HE LOOKS FORWARD WITH PLEASURE TO DR. PRESS' VISIT HERE FOR THE S&T JCM JULY 17 TO 19, AND SAID HE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE VISIT IS PLEASANT AND PRODUCTIVE.

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(SEE REFTEL C).

6. COMMENT: THE RESULTS OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE POLICY HAVE BEEN GENERALLY SATISFACTORY TO DATE THOUGH HAMPERED BY THE WELL-KNOWN SOVIET RELUCTANCE TO DIVULGE INFORMATION, IN THIS CASE ON PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS. NEVERTHELESS, A PROMISING START HAS BEEN MADE AND BOTH SIDES ARE PREPARED TO MOVE ON TO THE NEXT STAGE OF COOPERATION, THAT OF THE EXCHANGE OF EXPERTS. SOVIET INTEREST IN THIS COOPERATIVE PROJECT, BEST ILLUSTRATED BY SCST CHAIRMAN KIRILLIN'S RECEPTION OF USDEL, HIS SECOND IN TWO YEARS, AUGURS WELL FOR THE AGREED-UPON JOINT WORK. THE REAL LITMUS TEST OF SOVIET INTENTIONS, HOWEVER, WILL COME WHEN AMERICAN SPECIALISTS BEGIN REQUESTING ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON THE ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE OF SOVIET GAS PRODUCTION ENTERPRISES AND NPOS. EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE SOVIETS PROVIDE THE SAME ACCESS TO INFORMATION TO US SPECIALISTS THAT SOVIET PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE IN THE US UNDER THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS COOPERATIVE PROJECT. END COMMENT. TOON

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